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Draft report

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Addendum

Coordination questions: New Partnership for Africa's Development

(Item 4 (b))

United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

1. At its 5th meeting, on 5 June 2018, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) (E/AC.51/2018/9).

2. The Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa introduced the report and responded to questions raised during its consideration by the Committee.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed appreciation for the presentation and for the quality and comprehensiveness of the report.

4. Several delegations commended the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa on its work and on the achievement made in strengthening the coherence and coordination of United Nations system support for NEPAD, including in the context of the African Union Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. A delegation expressed support for the overall mission of NEPAD, deeming it an excellent example of an African solution to an African problem.

5. Several delegations voiced appreciation for the United Nations commitment to and support for the development of Africa, as well as for the achievements registered

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in the areas of infrastructure development; human capital development; governance, peace and security; agriculture and agroprocessing; industry, trade and market access; environment, population and urbanization; science and technology; and advocacy and outreach programmes.

6. Several delegations expressed appreciation for the efforts and initiatives of the African Union such as NEPAD and the Agenda 2063 action plan to achieve inclusive growth and sustainable development, and reiterated their commitment to and support for inclusive growth and sustainable development in Africa. The importance of strengthening peace, security and development on the continent as a responsibility of African Member States, with the support of the international community, was emphasized.

7. A delegation stressed the importance of supporting the joint and integrated implementation of NEPAD, Agenda 2063 and its first 10-year implementation plan, as well as the 2030 Agenda.

8. Several delegations emphasized the strengthened partnerships between the United Nations and the African Union with a view to enhancing coordination and cooperation in mobilizing support and resources at the global and regional levels for the joint implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda. In that respect, the recently signed African Union-United Nations Framework for the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Joint United Nations-African Union Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security were welcomed, as was the consolidation of the cluster system for the implementation of both Agendas.

9. In the context of the ongoing United Nations reforms, a delegation stressed the need to continue to place Africa at the centre of the efforts by the United Nations system and bodies to eradicate poverty, address the impact of climate change and ensure inclusive growth and sustainable development. A delegation noted the ongoing discussion on reform and expressed interest in the views of the Office of the Special Adviser on the potential impact in the areas of development, peace and security.

10. While delegations expressed broad support for the recommendations contained in the report, several areas were highlighted: (a) recommendations relating to trade, which were seen as pre-empting the role of the World Trade Organization and reinterpreting or impinging on its mandate; (b) recommendations relating to the transfer of technology without specifying whether that was to be done on voluntary and mutually agreed terms; and (c) recommendations that used the words "climate-smart agriculture" instead of the multilaterally agreed term "sustainable agriculture".

11. A delegation recalled that there was a long history in the United Nations relating to trade and the transfer of technology and a general understanding that they were broad channels to help the development of Africa. It was emphasized that trade and technology transfer were important for sustainable development.

12. A delegation noted that the next Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation would be held in September 2018 in Beijing. Another delegation noted that the next Tokyo International Conference on African Development would be held in 2019, with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa as a long-standing co-organizer.

13. The need to urgently mobilize adequate resources and the need for enhanced coordination and coherence among United Nations entities in support of the joint and integrated implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda was underscored by several delegations. A delegation made reference to section III.E of the report and highlighted the comments made therein that resource constraints, weak inter-cluster collaboration and communication and the lack of an effective monitoring and

evaluation framework were major challenges for the full implementation of the business plans of the clusters and capacity-building support. A delegation emphasized the need for an effective monitoring and evaluation framework to enable a proper assessment of the United Nations and other stakeholder support for the implementation of NEPAD objectives, Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda.

14. Several delegations noted the importance of domestic resource mobilization and combating illicit financial flows and emphasized that the strengthening of partnerships and South-South cooperation were also essential in the mobilization of resources for the implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda. A delegation also suggested that development partners honour their commitments.

Conclusions and recommendations

15. **The Committee took note of the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for NEPAD and recommended that the General Assembly endorse the conclusions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 122 to 132, in a manner that was consistent with intergovernmental mandates.**

16. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to continue to include, in future reports, detailed information relating to the possible outcomes of the achievements of NEPAD targets.**

17. **The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly reiterate its request to the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to promote greater coherence in their work in support of NEPAD, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, and called upon the United Nations system to continue to mainstream the specific development needs of Africa into all its normative and operational activities, including the financing of programmes and projects, resource mobilization and humanitarian assistance.**

18. **The Committee further recommended that the General Assembly request the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to coordinate closely with the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, as the technical body of the African Union, and other structures of the African Union Commission and NEPAD in order to continue to support the United Nations-African Union partnership on Africa's integration and development agenda for 2017–2027 and Agenda 2063.**

19. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly emphasize the need for the organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental bodies to continue to take into consideration the views, comments and/or input of regional and subregional organizations, including the African Union, in their policy formulations and decision-making, mainly in the areas of mediation, conflict prevention and peace and security, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.**

20. **The Committee also recommended that the reports of the Secretary-General on NEPAD continue to include information not only on seminars, workshops and meetings but also on tangible actions and results in respect of United Nations system support for projects of the Partnership throughout Africa, while stressing that future reports should further focus on the impact, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, of the activities implemented by entities of the United Nations system in support of the Partnership.**

21. **The Committee commended the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that future reports on NEPAD continue to include information on the**

activities undertaken by the Office in the areas of advocacy and analytical work, coherence and coordination and facilitation of intergovernmental deliberations relating to the provision of support by the United Nations system to the NEPAD agenda.

22. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General, in the context of his report on NEPAD, to include information on the activities undertaken to provide support to countries to address concerns regarding the protection of women and children, including from sexual violence.**

23. **The Committee emphasized the need for United Nations entities to continue their efforts in support of the region to address challenges relating to governance, youth unemployment, extremism and terrorism and recommended that the Secretary-General include information in that regard in his report.**

24. **The Committee recognized the important role of the development of infrastructure in Africa and recommended that the General Assembly reiterate its request to the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to mobilize United Nations system support in that area, in the context of the initiatives of the regional economic communities.**

25. **The Committee emphasized the need for the continued implementation of activities relating to the monitoring mechanism and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that future reports on NEPAD continue to provide information in that regard.**

26. **The Committee noted with appreciation the continued partnership between the African Union and the United Nations and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to foster the coordinated implementation of the Joint United Nations-African Union Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security and the African Union-United Nations Framework for the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by the relevant organizations of the United Nations system.**

27. **The Committee noted the importance of the development of skills, the transfer and use of relevant technology and the provision of financial and technical resources in the adaptation and mitigation of the effects of climate change in Africa and emphasized that the transfer of relevant technology should be on mutually agreed terms and conditions.**